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would ascribe a leading place to apprehensions respecting the currency; in listing the better elements among the Blaine supporters of 1884 (p. 211) it might have been mentioned that to the anti-Cameron group in Pennsylvania Blaine was a real reform candidate; the Hawaiian negotiation is deferred, in the chapter on Harrison (p. 374) "for subsequent treatment", and is again put off, in the chapter dealing with Cleveland's diplomacy (p. 443), with the comment that "it may be better considered when the story reaches the annexation of what were known in our school geographies as the Sandwich Islands". The story fails to reach the annexation. Does this mean that a volume IX. is to be expected?

FREDERIC L. PAXSON.

Intrigues et Diplomaties à Washington, 1914-1917. Par G. LECHARTIER. (Paris: Plon-Nourrit et Cie. 1919. Pp. viii, 302. 4 fr.)

THIS is a brief, accurate, vivacious, and comprehensive account of German plots, intrigues, and diplomacy in the United States prior to April, 1917, and of their effect on the American public and on relations with Germany. The author, Washington correspondent of the *Petit Parisien*, knows America and its people and is familiar with men and events. He describes with humor the social life of the national capital and Count von Bernstorff's place in it, his account of the *télé-salons*, comparable to the telephone and telegraph in transmitting political news, being particularly amusing.

Count von Bernstorff and President Wilson are depicted as antagonists in a mighty duel, the immediate prize being the sympathy and support of American public opinion, the ultimate stake nothing less than the liberty of the world. The struggle was unremitting, with poignant changes of fortune, enlisting every capacity and effort of both contestants, one of whom fought with hypocrisy and perfidy, the other with integrity and sense of justice.

Count von Bernstorff's superior diplomatic talents, his unusual aptitude in conceiving plots and amazing skill in directing their simultaneous execution, are described at some length. He often acted contrary to the wishes and against the will of his government, but always for its best interests, and the greatest diplomatic error of Germany was the obstinacy of the Wilhelmstrasse in not perceiving the genius and following the counsel of its ambassador.

A brief history of German propaganda prior to 1914 begins with von Holleben and asserts that partizans were found among certain German-Americans, among the Irish-Americans who were anti-English and anti-French, and among many of the Jews, ancient and mortal enemies of Russia and bound to Germany by strong financial ties. The propaganda extended to American schools and universities.

Count von Bernstorff took up the work on his arrival here, labored

with patience and energy to promote friendly relations with Germany, established close personal relations with influential congressmen and, when he went to Potsdam in the spring of 1914, believed that the position of himself and his government in the United States was impregnable. This impression he conveyed to the diplomats of Wilhelmstrasse and to the Kaiser himself, but underestimated one factor in the impending situation, his adversary, the President of the United States.

The six or seven chief purposes which Count von Bernstorff and his aids endeavored to carry out and the plots and intrigues which they employed to that end are adequately presented. The interest of the narrative is enhanced by a well-prepared setting for certain of the events, by anecdotes and accessory incidents.

The sinking of the *Lusitania* is narrated with dramatic effect in a separate chapter, which includes an account, made vivid by wealth of local color, of the effect of the catastrophe in the United States, the action of the German-Americans and of Count von Bernstorff and his staff.

The documents published by the *New York World* (August, 1915) showing the plans of the German ambassador to control the American press, to subsidize writers and circulate cinematograph films, had a decisive effect, M. Lechartier believes, on public sentiment in the United States. They turned attention from England, caused an outburst of indignation against Germany, and placed the German ambassador and his cause in the most critical position down to that time.

After tracing the events which led to the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany, the author describes the picturesque scenes and narrates the momentous happenings which accompanied the rupture. The East he found ready for war, the Middle West indifferent, and the Far West preoccupied by a fear of Japan which was caused largely by German influence and machinations. The publication of the Zimmermann note had in this region an immense and immediate effect. It shook the West out of its lethargy, silenced the pacifists, and caused demands for immediate action.

In the literature of its subject M. Lechartier's book is unique. Like two other brief histories, *America Entangled* by John Price Jones and *German Plots and Intrigues* issued by the Committee on Public Information, it presents the essential facts concerning German intrigue in the United States; but it includes further a discussion of many essential points in the diplomatic exchanges between the government of Germany and the United States, analyses of American public opinion, and vivid pictures of historic events preceding our entrance into the war. The author has conceived his subject broadly and produced a meritorious work.

E. E. SPERRY.